THE CONFESSION and EXECUTION OF THE Nine PRISONERS That Suffered at TYBURN, On Wednesday the 28th of *April*, 1680.

VIZ.

Ralph Cook for Coyning,
William Harding for a Rape,
Henry Weller for ſtealing a Mare,
Dorothy Soams for ſtealing a Silver Tankard,
Anne White,
Joſeph Rumney,
Matth. Smith,
John Ralfs,
and
Clement Snell,
} For ſeveral Burglaries.

With their Behaviour in Priſon, &c.

THough in every Moneth there be made ſuch numerous Examples, and ſo many juſtly Executed; yet ſo hardned are Offenders grown, that they will take no warning, either by the Juſtice inflicted on others, or the Mercy formerly vouchſafed to themſelves, but run on in the ſame courſe of Impiety; and thoſe that were crowding Spectators at one Execution, come themſelves to Suffer at the next. Which is credibly reported to have been ſeveral of theſe miſerable Wretches Caſe, ſome of them being after laſt Seſſions obſerved to be very diligent to get places, to ſee the Priſoners go to Suffer, and others in the mean time no leſs buſie in Picking of Pockets amongſt the Crowd. Yet we muſt do the preſent Sufferers that right, as to ſay, That after Condemnation they generally behaved themſelves very penitently, and with a ſober Deportment lamenting their ill-ſpent Lives, aggravating and crying out of the multitude and heinouſneſs of their Sins, and imploring the Mercy and Pardon of Almighty God through Jeſus Chriſt.

Some of them ripp'd up and declared the ſeries and tracks of wickedneſs, which they had followed from their Youth, diſcovering ſuch variety of particular Offences, that one would have thought it almoſt impoſſible, that perſons of their Age could have been ſuch vaſt Proficients in Wickedneſs.

Several of them had been under Sentence of Death before, and now too late they remembred thoſe ſolemn Vows which they then made to Heaven, to forſake their lewd Courſes, if God and the King would but have Mercy upon them, and ſave their Lives at that time: But when their Prayers were heard, no ſooner were they abroad, but they were far more wicked than ever before. Theſe dreadful Aggravations now lay heavy upon their Spirits, and they did deſire all that came to ſee them, to beware of the like horrible Impiety, that they would not abuſe Mercy, nor neglect their Vows made in the time of Diſtreſs; for God will not be mocked.

On Sunday the twenty fifth instant, the Ordinary both forenoon and afternoon, took great pains with these Condemned Malefactors, in two excellent Sermons, to bring them to a sense of their sins; and it was observed, that the greatest part of them gave their attention with much more seriousness, than some others in their Circumstances heretofore were wont to do.

There were a great number of Clippers and Coyners Arraigned at this Sessions, whereof several were Convicted, others Acquitted: of the former sort were Mrs *Richardson* and her Son, a brisk bold young fellow, and pretending himself a Dancing-master; another woman was Indicted with them, but Acquitted. Mrs. *Richardson* had brought a Trunk lockt to this other womans house, and set it obscurely under the Cellar-stairs; in this Trunk there were found the Tools for Clipping; likewise at home when she was taken, there were some Clippings discovered, and she cryed out of a window, and said, *she was undone*; and the Son endeavoured to fly for it, so that they were found guilty.

One *Underwood*, and *Elizabeth Cook*, a Wench he kept company with (a very courteous Lady, for at the Bar she boasted, she never had been unkind to any man in *her* life) were likewise Convicted of High-Treason for the like offence, much clipt Money and Clippings, and the necessary Implements being found upon them. Both these and two former lived near *Pickadilly*, and 'tis supposed, were all of a gang, or had conversation together; they were first discovered by means of an old Companion, to whom this *Underwoods* Mistress boasted, that she could get a Guinney a day by this Mystery, and told him somemething of the way. The Woman being supposed [illegible] the chief Inticer to this villany, was sentenced to be Burnt.

Another person who drove the same Trade alone by himself, was also found guilty: the matter was proved so plainly on him, that there could be no doubt or difficulty made of it. But His Majesty, who is wholly composed of Grace and Clemency, was pleased to Reprieve several of these Offenders.

A person living in or near *Grubstreet*, and his Wife, were likewise charged with the same Offence: The Evidence for the King made out several presumptions against them, but there was a multitude of their Neighbours and others that came in to testifie as to their Credit, &c. And the Prisoners alledged, the prosecution was upon an old grudge, and endeavoured to recriminate upon one of the chief Evidence; it did appear that four years ago, their House had been searched on suspition of this Crime of Clipping, and then nothing found that could render them obnoxious to the Law, so that after a full and fair Tryal they were acquitted.

Several persons, as is usual every Sessions, were Convicted for stealing of silver Tankards, and divers for Shop-lifting, the particulars too tedious to relate.

One *Daniel Mackarty*, an *Irish-man*, was Tryed and Convicted of Treason, as being a Popish Priest: the manner of his Apprehension was thus. A woman in *Charles-street* being very sick, this Father officiated with her, said Mass, and Administred the Sacrament to her, of which the Nurse gave notice to some honest Neighbours, who took out a Warrant and seized him in the said sick womans Chamber, who much interceded and begged that they would not take him away, and furiously Crying out, *O will ye rob me of my Salvation*; but

but they adviſed her to ſend for a Proteſtant Divine, and take inſtructions from him, and not to truſt ſuch blind Popiſh guides, with their Idolatrous Maſſes, and fooliſh Ceremonies of Extream Unction and groundleſs Abſolutions, where there is neither true Faith or Repentance. The Nurſe teſtified that ſhe had heard the Priſoner ſay Maſs, and exerciſe other parts of the Prieſtly Function. Dr. *Oates* likewiſe was a Witneſs againſt him, that he confeſſed to him that he was a Prieſt when he was brought to his Chamber. In his Pocket when he was taken, there was found a Petition to the *Venetian* Ambaſſador, expreſſed by the name of *Daniel Mackarty* Prieſt, ſetting forth his being in want, and deſiring relief; as likewiſe a Letter in *French* directed to him, and ſignifying likewiſe, that he was a Prieſt; which Papers were read in Court. He had little to ſay for himſelf, but behaved himſelf impudently, calling the Witneſſes ſcurrilous names, &c. Nothing could be made more plain than his Prieſthood, which in truth he ſcarce denyed, and ſo was found guilty, which he ſeemed not at all to regard, being a perſon (as moſt of them are) of a wonderful confidence.

The Petition before-mentioned was in French, and therein it was ſpecified what Order he was of; likewiſe there was another Paper in the ſame Language, purporting to be directions how (if he were taken) he ſhould behave himſelf, what excuſes and pretences he ſhould make, what he ſhould ſay if confronted by Doctor *Oates*, or any other of the Kings Evidence; whereby we may ſee they have Leſſons ſet them in every caſe. He thought to have baffled the woman that gave Evidence againſt him, by asking her what cloaths he had on when ſhe heard him officiate, who anſwered, the ſame he had now, whence he would infer that it could not be, becauſe in ſaying Maſs, they uſe ſuch and ſuch Veſtments; but this was quickly contradicted, for though he had not all his Formalities, which they cannot conveniently always, nor ſafely now eſpecially, carry about with them, yet to ſupply that defect, there was found about him, and now ſhewed in Court, a thing called in their holy *Gibberiſh*, *a Stole*, being a piece of Satin or Taffata, of near two yards long, and three or four inches broad, of a kind of deep blew, or almoſt purple colour, which they uſe to fling over their ſhoulders, and that alone ſerves inſtead of all the reſt of their gear. The woman mentioning her hearing him ſay Maſs, was askt how many were preſent, ſhe anſwered, ſhe could not certainly tell, but was ſure there was above threeſcore; and being demanded if ſhe knew any of them, replyed, yes, there were enough of them now about the Court, or in the yard, or words to that effect.

There was a young Gentleman of good note, took a Tryal on the *Friday* touching a Rape charg'd to be committed on the Daughter of one Mrs. a Girl about ten years of age. He was ordered by a Relation to demand Money of this Childs Parents, who kept an Ale-houſe, and they contriv'd, as may be thought, this Stratagem not onely to ſatisfie that Debt, but ſcrew more Money out of him. The Girl told the ſtory that he meddled with her in the Chamber at her Mothers; and her Siſter a wench about ſixteen years of age confirm'd it, by ſaying ſhe came up and ſaw it, and that he gave her two ſhillings to hold her tongue; and Midwives ſwore the Child had had ſome Abuſe. But the Gentleman proved by a Servant-maid, that the eldeſt Daughter went abroad, pickt up a man, brought him home, who went to bed with both her and her Siſter, and began with the leaſt firſt, ſo that then ſhe cry'd out and might receive the prejudice. Twas alſo prov'd, that they would fain have made a Compoſition for one hundred and ſixty pound, and then they would put it up, &c. So that upon the whole matter, the Gentleman was fairly Acquitted.

But as to the rest of the 24 persons condemned this Sessions, they were all (except the 9 named in the Title-page) Reprieved.

The Behaviour of most of these in the prison after Sentence, was, as we said, very penitent; especially *Henry Fowler*, condemned for stealing a Mare, and formerly Transported, was remarkable, spending his whole time in Reading, Prayers, and Exhortations to his fellow prisoners. Early in the morning before he suffered, he prayed with them above an hour very heartily, and with expressions suitable to their condition: wherein they seemed affectionately to joyn, and to receive much comfort thereby; they all immediately after singing praises to God with a Psalm.

William Harding, for that detestable Violence and Rape committed on a poor child, appear'd the most hardned and refractory person amongst them all. No perswasions or importunities of Ministers or others that came to visit him, could bring him to relent; but as he lived like a Brute, so to outward appearance he seemed not so sensible of his condition and approaching end, as might have been hoped for from the means that were used with him.

The women, *White* and *Soams*, were old offenders, had many times been in *Newgate*, and often received Mercy: they now lamentably bewailed their condition, and expressed much sorrow for their sins.

Ralph Cook was convicted of Treason, for counterfeiting the Kings Coyn, making Mill'd Half-Crowns out of Pewter-plate; part of which Pewter, and seven of the Half-Crowns, with divers Tools for the purpose, were found in his Lodging. He was first discovered by means of his wife, who gave some intimation thereof to his Landlord. He confessed that he was drawn into this fatal practice by a certain person in *Stafford-shire*, who 'tis said is some time since dead. He behaved himself soberly after Sentence, except onely when transported with passion at his wife, whom yet in words he did forgive, and prayed several times that God would forgive him his sin, and put his heart into a frame of charity towards her and all others.

At the place of Execution none of them made any Speech, but in general confessed their sins, and warn'd all the Spectators to take example by them, to avoid Ill company, Drunkenness, Swearing, profanation of the Sabbath, &c. Discourses common on such occasions, but 'tis a thousand pities they are no more regarded: for if they were, we should not see so many daily come to such an Ignominious End.

FINIS.